

Duckabush Estuary Restoration Project Newsletter

Summer 2021

Vol. 5

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is working in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group (HCSEG) to restore habitat at the mouth of the Duckabush River. The project would reconnect the Duckabush River to adjacent wetlands by modifying local roads and elevating Highway 101 onto a bridge. The bridge would span the entire valley where the Duckabush River meets the Hood Canal, recreating rare habitat important to native fish and wildlife.

More project information can be found at <https://wdfw.wa.gov/duckabush>

Project Design Update

Preliminary design for the project is nearly complete. We've included an updated map showing key features (see back.) Preliminary project features include:

- A new ~1,600-foot-long estuary-spanning bridge and elevated ~6 feet higher to allow for high tides and flood conditions.
- Wider shoulders and a re-designed intersection at Duckabush Road, with a left turn lane from Highway 101 onto Duckabush Road.

- Additional public parking adjacent to Duckabush Road at the north end of the new bridge.
- Restoration and reconnection of several historic tidal and river channels to improve fish and wildlife habitat.

Design work is on schedule for completion in mid-2022.

We'll be hosting an online meeting in late-summer to provide project updates and answer questions. Date and details will be forthcoming.

Estuary Clean-up Event

Join Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group (HCSEG) for a volunteer clean-up event to keep the Duckabush River Estuary beautiful! Thanks to our wonderful volunteers, last year's event was a success. Nearly 2,500 pounds of trash and debris were removed from the estuary and wildlife area! Let's do it again! We need volunteers (you!) to sign up for a shift during our next clean-up event July 10th & 11th. Trash buckets will be provided to volunteers and a dumpster will be made available in the large WDFW dirt parking lot.

Who: all ages and open to the public (must pre-register)

When: Saturday July 10th & Sunday July 11th from 9:00AM – 3:00PM (Sign up for a 2-hour shift when you pre-register)

Where: Public lands in the Duckabush Estuary (Duckabush Unit of the North Olympic Wildlife Area)

Why: Trash in the Duckabush River Estuary in Hood Canal accumulates due to its proximity to highway 101, high tides and high river flow events that carry debris in. We need YOUR help to clean up one of our beautiful local estuaries.

What to bring: Work gloves, sun protection, water and snacks.

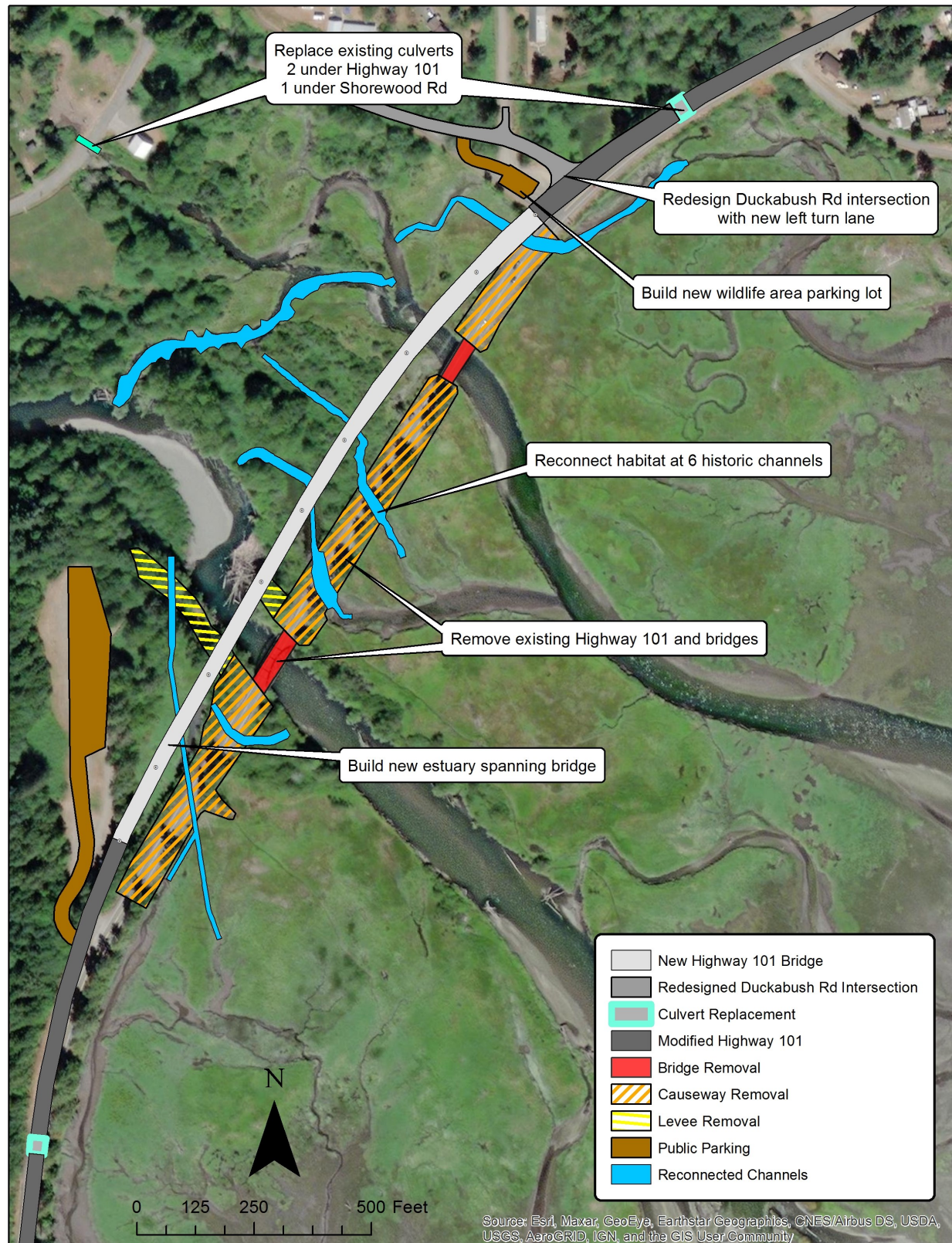
How: Pre-registration is required. Online at: <https://www.pnwsalmoncenter.org/get-involved/volunteer/>

For questions, contact Anna by email: anna@pnwsalmoncenter.org, or call: 360-275-3575 X118.



Young clean-up volunteers.

Duckabush Estuary Restoration Preliminary Design (subject to change)



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